

ENERGY MANAGEMENT (CSP Enhancements)

October 2005

Colorado Enhancement Activity Job Sheet E-7

Name: _____

Renewable Energy Generation

Payment = \$2.50 / 100 KWH generated.

Cost-conscious and conservation-minded farmers and ranchers have become increasingly aware of the impact that energy has on their ability to sustain their operations. The rising cost of electricity alone can determine whether some farmers are able to stay in business, especially dairy farmers and operations that rely on pumping irrigation water. While gaining efficiency and practicing conservation can create significant savings, farmers and ranchers can add energy generation to their operations. For many farmers and ranchers, solar, wind, biogas (methane generation), and in some instances, geothermal or hydropower energy, can be generated and used on the farm to conserve energy and increase energy independence. Currently, only 2 percent of the total energy consumption in the United States comes from clean, renewable resources, but the potential power output of renewable energy resources is great.

In order to encourage increased energy production from renewable sources, the USDA, through the Conservation Security Program (CSP), will provide payments to qualified agricultural producers for each 100 kilowatt hours of electricity they generate.

Documentation Required: Energy savings verified by a State Public Utilities Commission, local electric utility (when connected to the grid), or the Environmental Protection Agency's conservation verification protocol must be provided prior to payment approval.

I certify that I have the required certification from the State Public Utilities or Environmental Protection Agency.

Name: _____

Date: _____